

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of creating snapshots of a data record, said
2 method comprising:
3 determining one or more changes to the data record;
4 comparing the changes to one or more rules; and
5 copying one or more fields from the data record to a
6 snapshot record in response to the comparison.
- 1 2. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
2 writing transaction data corresponding to the copying
3 to a transaction log file, wherein the
4 transaction data includes an address
5 corresponding to the snapshot record.
- 1 3. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising:
2 retrieving one or more transaction records stored in
3 the transaction log file; and
4 selecting a related snapshot record corresponding to
5 each of the retrieved transaction log records.
- 1 4. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
2 including a snapshot pointer in the data record that
3 includes an first address corresponding to the
4 snapshot record; and
5 including a data record pointer in the snapshot record
6 that includes a second address corresponding to
7 the data record.
- 1 5. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
2 retrieving one or more snapshot records corresponding
3 to the data record;

analyzing the retrieved snapshot records; and
displaying a resulting analysis.

6. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
retrieving one or more snapshot records corresponding
to the data record;
identifying one of the retrieved snapshot records as a
rollback record; and
creating a new data record by overlaying the data
record with the rollback record.

7. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
reading the rules from a rules data area; and
identifying the fields from a snapshot fields data
area.

8. An information handling system comprising:
one or more processors;
a memory accessible by the processors;
a nonvolatile storage accessible by the processors;
one or more data records stored on the nonvolatile
storage; and
a snapshot tool for creating snapshots of a data
record, the snapshot tool including:
means for determining one or more changes to the
data record;
means for comparing the changes to one or more
rules; and
means for copying one or more fields from the
data record to a snapshot record in response
to the comparison.

1 9. The information handling system as described in claim
2 8 further comprising:
3 means for writing transaction data corresponding to
4 the copying to a transaction log file, wherein
5 the transaction data includes an address
6 corresponding to the snapshot record.

1 10. The information handling system as described in claim
2 9 further comprising:
3 means for retrieving one or more transaction records
4 stored in the transaction log file; and
5 means for selecting a related snapshot record
6 corresponding to each of the retrieved
7 transaction log records.

1 11. The information handling system as described in claim
2 8 further comprising:
3 means for including a snapshot pointer in the data
4 record that includes an first address
5 corresponding to the snapshot record; and
6 means for including a data record pointer in the
7 snapshot record that includes a second address
8 corresponding to the data record.

1 12. The information handling system as described in claim
2 8 further comprising:
3 means for retrieving one or more snapshot records
4 corresponding to the data record;
5 means for analyzing the retrieved snapshot records;
6 and
7 means for displaying a resulting analysis.

- 1 13. The information handling system as described in claim
2 8 further comprising:
3 means for retrieving one or more snapshot records
4 corresponding to the data record;
5 means for identifying one of the retrieved snapshot
6 records as a rollback record; and
7 means for creating a new data record by overlaying the
8 data record with the rollback record.
- 1 14. The information handling system as described in claim
2 8 further comprising:
3 means for reading the rules from a rules data area;
4 and
5 means for identifying the fields from a snapshot
6 fields data area.
- 1 15. A computer program product stored on a computer
2 operable medium for creating snapshots of a data
3 record, said computer program product comprising:
4 means for determining one or more changes to the data
5 record;
6 means for comparing the changes to one or more rules;
7 and
8 means for copying one or more fields from the data
9 record to a snapshot record in response to the
10 comparison.
- 1 16. The computer program product as described in claim 14
2 further comprising:
3 means for writing transaction data corresponding to
4 the copying to a transaction log file, wherein

5 the transaction data includes an address
6 corresponding to the snapshot record.

1 17. The computer program product as described in claim 15
2 further comprising:
3 means for retrieving one or more transaction records
4 stored in the transaction log file; and
5 means for selecting a related snapshot record
6 corresponding to each of the retrieved
7 transaction log records.

1 18. The computer program product as described in claim 14
2 further comprising:
3 means for including a snapshot pointer in the data
4 record that includes an first address
5 corresponding to the snapshot record; and
6 means for including a data record pointer in the
7 snapshot record that includes a second address
8 corresponding to the data record.

1 19. The computer program product as described in claim 14
2 further comprising:
3 means for retrieving one or more snapshot records
4 corresponding to the data record;
5 means for analyzing the retrieved snapshot records;
6 and
7 means for displaying a resulting analysis.

1 20. The computer program product as described in claim 14
2 further comprising:
3 means for retrieving one or more snapshot records
4 corresponding to the data record;

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5 means for identifying one of the retrieved snapshot
6 records as a rollback record; and
7 means for creating a new data record by overlaying the
8 data record with the rollback record.

1 21. The computer program product as described in claim 14
2 further comprising:

3 means for reading the rules from a rules data area;

4 and

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5      means for identifying the fields from a snapshot
6      fields data area.

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